

shall either shoot the victim or push him or her into the swift running Bow from the centre of the west bridge, while all the people line the banks to witness the spectacle. This ceremony shall be observed annually for ninety years, *i.e.*, three generations. On the ninety-first anniversary, or in the year 2000, if we do our part faithfully, the devil will receive his last payment and thereafter the celebration shall be carried out in detail with the exception of the killing. In place of the slaughter our great grandchildren shall have a thanksgiving for their deliverance from the devil of infectious diseases—and for the blessing of abundant good health for all the people. Would the horror of this sufficiently impress the people to drive them to the full performance of their part in eradicating preventable disease, or would they again grow callous and allow the devil to claim his annual toll unheeded?

Seriously, this would be a good bargain for us to make. We shudder at the publicity and the personal elements thus given to the deaths, and yet *we are voluntarily carrying out a worse bargain*. The death by tuberculosis is a living death, slow, sure, dying by inches, absolutely far worse than drowning or shooting, *and we know how to prevent it*. Shall we?

The really most important, and until recently entirely ignored, factor in the future elimination of tuberculosis is *eugenics, that is, the science of improvement of the human race by intelligent and selected breeding*. Until recently little has been known of the facts of heredity; as regards the children, very aptly has marriage been termed a lottery. That eugenics strikes at the root of the matter of health is due to the large part which inherited susceptibility plays in the incidence of every kind of disease.

Much of a parent's happiness is identified with the happiness and well-being of his children and so in turn as the happiness of the latter depends largely on their children we must look to the well-being of our children and grandchildren if we would secure the fullest measure of our own happiness. Many children are before birth already doomed with absolute certainty to definite diseases, insanity or low level physical